

WASHINGTON.

Embarrassment of the Administration Concerning Cuba.

Senator Sumner's Views of the Situation.

A Sinking Fund for the Extinguishment of the Public Debt.

WASHINGTON, May 6, 1899.

Completion of the Cuban Question—Embarrassment of the Administration—Senator Sumner's Views.

The Cuban question is giving considerable embarrassment to the administration. Each day it is presenting itself to the President and his cabinet in new shapes and under more embarrassing circumstances. From official sources I learn that for the present the government has determined to take no official notice of the troubles in Cuba. The President and the members of his cabinet ascertain from the newspapers that there is an insurrection in Cuba; they see accounts of meetings held in the different cities to express sympathy with the Cuban patriots; they read about expeditions being fitted out and of ships sailing with men and arms to aid the insurgents, but neither President Grant nor any member of his cabinet is supposed to know anything officially about these matters. In speaking of this subject to-day the President said that he saw a good deal in the newspapers about Cuba concerning which the government, as far as he knew, had no official information. When the question was put to him whether he knew about the sailing of ships with arms and men for Cuba, he naively answered, "Well, I have seen something to that effect in the newspapers." Having his attention called to the despatch of Admiral Hord received at the Navy Department yesterday, containing an account of an unsuccessful attempt to land men and arms on the coast of Cuba for the insurgents, the President quietly remarked that he supposed what Hord said was correct, but he had no knowledge of who they were or where they came from. There seems to be a studied effort on the part of the government officials to ignore, in a quiet, official way, for the present the whole Cuban business. The President does not know anything, the Secretary of State is ignorant, the cabinet members are supposed not to know anything, and the public is left to guess what is going on.

In a casual conversation with Senator Sumner to-day my correspondent asked that gentleman what he thought of the struggle in Cuba. He replied that he was afraid it was a little premature and that it would not result in anything, unless the Cubans should receive material aid from outside parties. He would like, as he supposed every American would, to see the Cubans succeed. First, because it would secure emancipation to the slaves in that island, and second, because their success would end either in the independence of Cuba or in annexation to the United States, most probably the latter. I suggested that perhaps it would aid the Cubans to some extent if our government should accord to them belligerent rights. Mr. Sumner replied that there might be some difficulty about that, and he doubted whether even Cuba would be of much material service to the United States. If Cuba were still in the Spanish hands, it might put a different face on the matter, but there is an effort being made in Spain to establish a liberal form of government. "We cannot," said Mr. Sumner, "very well do anything to embarrass this movement. To take an active part with Cuba against Spain would seriously distract the home government." I inquired whether he had not a right to accord the Cubans belligerent rights. To this Mr. Sumner replied that while we might have the right, the question was whether it would be expedient to exercise it. A great nation like ours could do almost anything, but it must take the consequences of its acts. He thought that a recognition on our part of the belligerent rights of the Cubans might lead to trouble with Spain. The Spaniards were not strong, but they were proud, and would show fight. What would be the result? Our commerce is not large, but it is still considerable, and we must be able to trade with Spain. There would be twenty thousand Americans instead of one, and we would be the losers. Mr. Sumner went on to say that he believed the annexation of Cuba to the United States was inevitable, but it would come about of itself. He thinks that the present contest, if it does not result in subduing the insurgents at an early day, will end in leaving Cuba comparatively a desert.

The Spanish Mission—General Sikes to be Hale's Successor.

The President, in answer to an inquiry, stated to-day that nothing would be done towards appointing a Minister to Spain for several weeks. He assigned as the principal reason that Minister Hale's resignation does not take effect until the 1st of July. I learn from a prominent member of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations that the President is disposed to appoint General Sikes to the Spanish mission, and that when the proper time arrives for making the appointment, Sikes will be selected. He is a man of high standing, and has been considered a fitting successor to Hale.

Walkers in the Crowd—A Delegation of Clergymen.

The President's interview with the masses to-day, between the hours of ten and twelve, was marked by the presence of a crowd much larger than usual. Grant appears to meet the pressure with as much coolness as he displayed in the midst of the fiercest battles. He always fortifies himself with a number of cigars for these interviews, and keeps smoking away all the time. Looking into the door of his office you see a volume of smoke rising from the outer edge of the crowd, and there sits the President enveloped in a cloud of tobacco smoke, as if he was anxious to keep the would-be-confidential confabulators at a respectful distance. Among those who claimed the attention of the President to-day was a bright negro boy, who, watching his opportunity, thrust a paper into the hands of Grant, which read as follows:—

WASHINGTON, May 3, 1899.

The bearer of this, Edward Freeman, has applied to me for a situation as a body servant, but seems to be more fully qualified by education and experience to do service among horses. He informs me he has been for several years a rider at the running races on the coast, and has ridden the celebrated horses Upsilon, Morriway and many others in their successful contests on the turf. CHAS. R. CORNWELL.

Upon reading this the President smiled, took an extra puff on his cigar, and eying the negro from head to foot asked him why he brought this paper to him. "Because," said the negro, his face brightening up, "I heard you was a great horseman and I thought you might want me to take care of your horses. I know all about them animals." The President smiled again and told the boy that if he had come about two weeks sooner he might have given him a place. Among the callers was Dr. Mary A. Walker, and in her usual "dress reform" costume, and who appeared much pleased at the opportunity of a chat with the President. After the hungry public had been satisfied a delegation of unscrupulous looking men appeared in the ante-room and requested an interview. The story was circulated that they were Mormons; but on inquiry General Dent learned they were clergymen of the sect known as the Dunkard Baptists. Upon being admitted to see the President the spokesman of the party promised by saying that they were not office-seekers, but merely came to shake hands with the President. They laughed, and said that he was glad to see them, especially as they were not office-seekers. He had seen enough of that class to-day.

Governor Ashley of Montana.

Inspector Ashley was at the White House to-day among the crowd, but he did not seem to receive any more attention from the President than the negro boy who wanted a situation to ride Grant's hot trotters. Notwithstanding all the protests which

have been sent the President, Ashley has received his commission as Governor of Montana and leaves to-morrow for the scene of his official honors. He says he has been making arrangements in New York to have a large number of Swedish and Norwegian emigrants sent out to Montana on their arrival in this country, and also German emigrants. Ashley's object is to get an element in Montana that will neutralize the large democratic majority said to exist there. He says he is bound to bring Montana into the Union, before Grant's term expires, a republican State. It is surmised that his ultimate object is to make himself United States Senator.

Federal Appointments.

The following appointments were made to-day by the President: Robert C. Kirk, Minister Resident to the Republic of Uruguay; James Washington Purviance, United States Attorney for the Western District of Tennessee; John H. McNeely, Assessor of Internal Revenue for the First District of Indiana.

Collectors of Internal Revenue.—Ralph Hill, for the Third District of Indiana; Ephraim Latham, Third Alabama; Andrew A. Lewis, First Indiana; Edward Fullings, Sixth North Carolina.

Fifty-one assistant assessors of internal revenue were appointed yesterday, the majority being for the Pennsylvania districts.

William H. Clemence has been appointed a detective in the internal revenue service, and is assigned to duty with the new Supervisor of the North and South Carolina district.

General Terrill, of Indiana, has been appointed by the President Third Assistant Postmaster General, in place of Leveley.

Francis D. Chipman has been appointed Postmaster at San Francisco, N. Y., and E. H. Sears Postmaster at Hampton, Va.

Appointment Declined.

William Carey, of Galena, Ill., who was nominated and confirmed as Assessor of Internal Revenue for Utah Territory, has written to the department declining the appointment.

Fight Over the Pennsylvania Marshalship.

There is a vacant office in Pennsylvania—the Marshalship of the Eastern district. The contest for this place was hotly contested at the outset. Old Jesse Grant, the General's father—so the story goes—got it for General Ely, who served as a Freedmen's Bureau officer in Kentucky, where he made the acquaintance of Old Jesse. Poor Ely, who died a few days ago, was scarcely cold before the Attorney General was overwhelmed with telegrams engaging the place in advance. To-day, however, a fierce struggle commenced in earnest. Not less than twenty-five prominent Pennsylvania politicians have arrived during the day. Among the first arrivals was Jack Haisland, who was considered the strongest man when Ely was appointed. To-night's train brought George M. Lamm, Forney's man, with A. K. McClure, Governor Curtin, W. B. Mann and a dozen other local politicians from the Keystone State. The fight begins to-morrow. Haisland is the candidate of the Cameron faction, while Lamm represents the Curtin-Forney faction.

Sam Ward's Dinner to Secretary Bore.

The irrepressible Sam Ward gave one of his characteristic dinners this evening in honor of the Secretary of the Navy. Besides the smiling host there were present Secretary Bore and lady, Isaac Haisburn, of Philadelphia, and lady, and General Banks. The conversation, it is said, ran upon Cuban affairs, in which both General Banks and Sam Ward are understood to be deeply interested.

Public Debt Sinking Fund.

The Secretary of the Treasury, since his return from New York, has been considering the propriety of putting in force the law relative to the establishment of a sinking fund for the gradual extinguishment of the public debt. He has received several letters on the subject from prominent financiers throughout the country, most of them inquiring when he intended to commence. The Secretary's first idea was to begin at once, but, upon reflection, he thinks he will postpone it until the close of the present fiscal year, June 30. By that time he hopes to have a better run of the business of the department, and some reliable estimates from the collectors of customs as to the amount of revenue that may be expected from that source.

Weekly Customs Receipts.

The customs receipts from April 26 to the 30th, inclusive, are as follows:—

New York	\$1,768,795
Boston	334,155
Philadelphia	138,412
Baltimore	127,715
San Francisco	191,824
Total	\$2,560,799

The Corcoran Art Building.

The Corcoran Art Building is being repaired and the alterations made by the Quartermaster General's Department are being removed. In a few days Mr. Corcoran intends to turn the building over to the city authorities in order that it may be devoted to the purpose for which it was erected—a repository of art.

Personal.

Brevet Brigadier General James A. Harvie, who has for many years been on duty in the War Department, has applied for service in another quarter and has been assigned to duty as inspector general on the staff of General Sheridan, commanding the military division of the Missouri. He will leave for St. Louis in a few days.

Volunteer.

Colonel George C. Moore, paymaster in the United States army, who acted as private secretary for President Johnson, leaves Monday next for Leavenworth to act in the former capacity.

Return of the Northern Excursionists.

The party consisting of ex-Governor Ward, of New York; Colonel Forney, General Van Wyck, of New York, and others, who stated on a Southern trip two weeks ago, have returned to Washington. They went as far as Florida, stopping at the principal cities and towns on the way. All concur in the report that the industrial prospects have improved; the negroes are working better this year than last, and the whites generally seem to be more industrious. The crops look well, the people are anxious for Northern immigration; millions of acres of good land are for sale, and great inducements are offered to capitalists. The party were everywhere well received, and the railroad companies provided special cars or trains for their accommodation free of charge.

FREE TRADE.

Address by Professor Perry.

The Third Union Co-operative Society met last evening at their hall, No. 214 Bowery, to listen to an address by Professor Perry, the Massachusetts Free Trade champion, on "Free Trade and how it will benefit the Workingman."

A tolerable attendance was put in by the members, and after the meeting had been called to order Professor Perry commenced by alluding to the oppressive hours that laboring men were obliged to work without a corresponding remuneration. The wages of the laboring men were not, he said, in a species of feudal tyranny that was first practiced by a barbarous and unjust people, who the savages of Tartar originally undertook to extort a payment of duties from the Moorish traders. The causes that operate to force poor wages, he said, can be reduced to two simple statements—First, the debasement of the currency, and secondly, the restrictions on commerce. Under the first head the Professor repeated the well-known argument showing the necessity of an early return to a real and solid money basis, where the daily fluctuations consequent upon war and rumors of war, would not drive their nails into the poor man's coffin. He then alluded to the intrinsic connection that subsists between the workingman and the commerce of the country; to the influence it had upon their rights, making the cost of hiring even tenanted quarters a great burden to the poor. In the next few years the cost of living will be increased by the evil resulting from the old system of protective tariffs, the very name of which suggests a species of tyranny that was first practiced by a barbarous and unjust people, who the savages of Tartar originally undertook to extort a payment of duties from the Moorish traders. The causes that operate to force poor wages, he said, can be reduced to two simple statements—First, the debasement of the currency, and secondly, the restrictions on commerce. Under the first head the Professor repeated the well-known argument showing the necessity of an early return to a real and solid money basis, where the daily fluctuations consequent upon war and rumors of war, would not drive their nails into the poor man's coffin. He then alluded to the intrinsic connection that subsists between the workingman and the commerce of the country; to the influence it had upon their rights, making the cost of hiring even tenanted quarters a great burden to the poor. In the next few years the cost of living will be increased by the evil resulting from the old system of protective tariffs, the very name of which suggests a species of tyranny that was first practiced by a barbarous and unjust people, who the savages of Tartar originally undertook to extort a payment of duties from the Moorish traders.

HAVERSTRAW.

The Brickmakers' Strike.—The strike of the Haverstraw brickmakers for fewer hours of labor continues. On Wednesday the agents who had been sent by the proprietors of the yards to Canada for the purpose of hiring laborers to replace the strikers returned, bringing with them twenty-five men. These were set at work at once, but in the course of the day a body of the strikers paid them a visit and succeeded in "buying them out." The Kanabks in consequence of this arrangement threw down their tools and refused to work any longer. The strikers, however, expect several hundred other French Canadians to arrive some time this week, and they hope to be able with these to drive the yards in operation again. The strike has lasted about three weeks, and the negative effect upon the business of the town is very marked. At the present high quotations of brick, has been immense. As may be inferred, business in the little village of Haverstraw, which is situated in the heart of the brick making district, is fairly doing.

SUBURBAN INTELLIGENCE.

NEW JERSEY.

Jersey City.

INJURY TO A CHURCH.—A veteran named Michael Schafel, residing in Grand street, where he keeps a saloon, was assaulted and beaten on Wednesday night by John Waldron, John Fox and William Connor. They used soda water bottles with terrible effect on the unfortunate man's head. A warrant was issued by Justice Allen yesterday, and the three alleged assailants were held to await the result of Schafel's injuries.

SUIT OF A PHYSICIAN FOR COMPENSATION FOR SERVICES.—An interesting case was tried yesterday before Justice McNally and a jury. It appears that, some time ago, Dr. Prendergast, of this city, attended the wife of James Herbert, and having received no remuneration for his services, he brought suit for payment for his services. Herbert refused to pay, and the doctor sued him yesterday for the amount. The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff and ordered the defendant to pay the costs.

CONFIRMATION AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH.—After the celebration of the eighth o'clock mass at St. Mary's church yesterday night Bishop Bayley administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to 72 candidates, all residents of the parish. The Bishop delivered an impressive address to the youths, in which he exhorted them to receive well the fruits of the sacrament, which would enable them to suffer for the faith if necessary. A large number of the children subsequently received for the first time the Holy Communion. The boys, who are in charge of the Christian Alliance, and the girls, who are in charge of the white dresses and veils and floral wreaths.

Hudson City.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE.—The annual report of Chief Robinson shows that within the past year 215 persons were arrested for drunkenness and disorderly conduct, 165 for intoxication, 80 for being disorderly, 34 for theft, 40 for burglary, 35 for vagrancy, 10 for malicious mischief, 70 for breach of city ordinances, 90 for assault and battery, 6 for receiving stolen goods, 1 for gambling, 3 for passing counterfeit money, 1 for carrying a dangerous weapon, 2 for disorderly house, 2 for cruelty to animals, 2 for insanity, 9 wife beaters and 18 suspicious characters.

Shocking Death.—The man Timothy Murphy, an employe of the Morris and Essex Railroad, who was fatally injured through being run over a week ago by a passenger train at the depot in the city, died yesterday of lockjaw.

In a Sinking Condition.—The man, McGuire, who was injured by a baker named Stokes in Thompson's bakery last Monday night is still in a precarious condition. His physician has given him up. His wife claims that he was not drunk, but that he was looking for a job, and that the interests of his employer on the night of the occurrence.

First Communion in St. John's Church.—Yesterday morning the Rev. Father Schmidt administered the sacrament for the first time to about one hundred children in St. John's Roman Catholic church. The ceremonies were of an imposing character, and the children were well prepared for the sacrament by the importance of the sacrament they received.

Arrest of Alleged Horse Thieves.—On Wednesday afternoon Stephen Clifford was arraigned before Justice Smedley, at Jamaica, on a charge of having stolen a horse and wagon from the premises of Mr. Henry S. Lott, at Woodhaven, Queens county, on Monday night last. The stolen property was missed a short time after it was taken by the thief, when Mr. Lott placed the matter in charge of detective William Mann, of the Metropolitan Police, who succeeded in arresting the thief in Westchester county, and in recovering the stolen property. Only a few hours intervened between the robbery and the time of his capture, so closely was he followed up. The thief then stole a wagon from the same premises, with which he left. On the following morning search was made for the thief and missing property, when he was secured at Farmingdale, with the horse and wagon in his possession.

LYNCH LAW.—John Haisland, a white man having a colored wife, was dragged from his bed near a place a night or two ago and taken to a brick yard, where he was given a coat of tar and feathers. His assailants took him to town and nailed him up in a dry goods box, from which he afterwards made good his escape, with a warning following him never to return.

THE CANAL BREAK.—The Delaware and Hudson Canal Company paid \$12,000 for repairing the recent break at Fort Jervis.

Decorations Day.—The returned officers of the United States army are making extensive arrangements for throwing flowers on the graves of their dead comrades on Sunday, May 30.

THURSDAY.—The Beaverkill, Lackawack and Shandaken streams abound with trout this season, and disciples of Isak Walton are arriving from abroad daily. Many fine messes have already been caught.

SHOCKING DEATH.—A man named James Decker, employed on the Delaware and Hudson Canal, was killed in a terrible manner last week. He had held a window crank when it struck him, driving the crank through his skull. He lived about five hours.

NORWAY OATS.—The farmers here have been investing largely in Norway oats, paying as high as ten dollars per bushel for them.

NEWBURG.

ACCESSION DAY.—The church festival of the Ascension was generally observed yesterday among the Catholics and Episcopalians of this city. In St. Patrick's church mass was celebrated by Rev. Father Prendergast at six o'clock yesterday morning, and at half-past ten, high mass. Both these services were largely attended.

At the latter of them the choir rendered with effect a number of songs, and the organ played an address appropriate to the day and the occasion was delivered by Rev. Father Prendergast. In the evening the usual service for children was held. In St. George's church the Ascension was celebrated by the Rev. Father Prendergast at six o'clock A. M. Sermons on the ascension of Christ were delivered by Rev. Father Prendergast and Rev. Father McGee, respectively of the two churches. The results owing to the church from the ascent of Christ to His Father were described upon these services were not very numerous, although the church was well attended.

ITEMS IN BRIEF.—The police reports show that sixty-four arrests were made in this city during the month of April. In the same period the city lodged many of the children of the poor.

The Catholics of Newburg are indignant at the refusal of the Board of Education, composed entirely of Protestants, to employ a Catholic lady, who had applied for a situation as teacher in the public schools. The Catholics support a school of their own, in which about six hundred children are taught, and they are in the expense of maintaining this school they are called upon to pay taxes for the support of the public schools. They wish some sort of justice done in the matter, and they hope to be able with these to drive the yards in operation again. The strike has lasted about three weeks, and the negative effect upon the business of the town is very marked. At the present high quotations of brick, has been immense. As may be inferred, business in the little village of Haverstraw, which is situated in the heart of the brick making district, is fairly doing.

THE BRICKMAKERS' STRIKE.—The strike of the Haverstraw brickmakers for fewer hours of labor continues. On Wednesday the agents who had been sent by the proprietors of the yards to Canada for the purpose of hiring laborers to replace the strikers returned, bringing with them twenty-five men. These were set at work at once, but in the course of the day a body of the strikers paid them a visit and succeeded in "buying them out." The Kanabks in consequence of this arrangement threw down their tools and refused to work any longer. The strikers, however, expect several hundred other French Canadians to arrive some time this week, and they hope to be able with these to drive the yards in operation again. The strike has lasted about three weeks, and the negative effect upon the business of the town is very marked. At the present high quotations of brick, has been immense. As may be inferred, business in the little village of Haverstraw, which is situated in the heart of the brick making district, is fairly doing.

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secure work elsewhere have returned, in the hope that some compromise may be made with the employers. Should the latter fall in their efforts to fill up their ranks with Kanabks, it is quite possible that a truce may be agreed upon. A large proportion of the 2,000 strikers are those who have been employed in the brick yards of the previous season's earnings. The strike occurring so early in the season its effects are already beginning to be felt in the families of these laborers, whose four barrel, filled in last year's earnings, is very nearly empty now.

BROOKLYN INTELLIGENCE.

SNATCH ROBBERY.—Forty dollars' worth of silverware was stolen from the residence of Charles Hobbs, No. 18 Willow street, by some sneak thief on Wednesday night. The parties with the stolen goods were seen on Shipboard.

STOLEN GOODS.—Martin Daley, a storekeeper, who resides at No. 17 West street, New York, fell into the hold of the big Mary Jane Thayer, lying at the foot of Congress street, yesterday, and was seriously injured about the head and body. He was taken to the Long Island City Hospital.

HELD FOR THE GRAND JURY.—William Flynn was taken before Judge Walsh yesterday and held for the Grand Jury, on a charge of shooting at Stephen Hayward, a partner got into an altercation on Ninth avenue, near Ninth street, when Flynn, who had a gun in his possession, discharged it at the complainant.

SUPPOSED INCENDIARY FIRE.—The family of Mr. Thompson, No. 28 Ryerson street, were alarmed on Wednesday morning by a fire in the kitchen, and to find the house filled with smoke. Investigation proved that the fire proceeded from the extension. The flames were extinguished without any outside alarm being given. It is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary.

RUN-OVER ACCIDENT.—William Florio was severely, if not fatally, injured yesterday afternoon by being run over by a truck in Raymond street, near Myrtle avenue. He was employed at the pork packing establishment of Lockett & Co., and was lifting a portion of the truck while some repairs were being made, when the horses started and the wheels passed over his head and shoulders. He was taken to the City Hospital.

A TAILOR SWINDLER.—A German tailor, Conrad Surman, who keeps a store No. 10 Spencer street, was yesterday arrested by a police officer, to find the house filled with smoke. Investigation proved that the fire proceeded from the extension. The flames were extinguished without any outside alarm being given. It is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary.

ASCENSION DAY FESTIVAL IN WILLIAMSBURG.—The celebration of Ascension Day was duly observed in the several Episcopal and Catholic churches, the Sabbath schools of the former improving the opportunity afforded to participate in their annual spring time parade. The schools of Christ church, St. Mark's, St. Paul's, Grace church and St. Mark's Mission met at their respective school rooms at two o'clock, and after marching over the route previously designated, returned to the chapel on Division avenue, while the religious exercises at St. Paul's church were in progress, the Rev. Father Schmidt, of the Holy Trinity church, delivered a sermon on the Ascension of Christ, which was well received by the congregation.

THE TWO TIER RAILROAD BILL.—The Senate yesterday afternoon took up the bill for the relief of the Brooklyn and Westchester Railroad, which was introduced by Senator East, and which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. The bill was passed by the Senate yesterday afternoon.

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